



February 16, 2017

Appropriations Committee
State of Connecticut
Legislative Office Building, Room 2C
Hartford, CT 06106

**RE: Testimony on H.B. 7027 AN ACT CONCERNING THE STATE BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM
ENDING JUNE THIRTIETH 2019, AND MAKING APPROPRIATIONS THEREFOR.**

Dear Senator Formica, Senator Osten, and Representative Walker:

The Greater New Haven Chamber's mission is to provide unrivaled partner services and lead regional economic growth through bold and effective advocacy. It serves the 15 towns in the New Haven region, with partners across a large spectrum of businesses and non-profits that works to shape public policy and foster growth in the business community.

In 2013, major employers, labor, and elected city officials collaborated to create New Haven Works, a public/private organization designed to ensure that regional employers and businesses have access to a local talent pool and that qualified, pre-screened city residents have access to good jobs. The Greater New Haven Chamber has supported New Haven Works since the beginning by serving on its Board of Directors and by facilitating employer relationships in the region.

As an advocate for the business community, the Chamber has seen first-hand how New Haven Works is a win-win for employers and local residents. Many of our Chamber partners have used the free services provided by New Haven Works to recruit and hire qualified city residents.

New Haven Works has saved companies thousands of dollars and provides a well-trained workforce to attract new businesses and as such it is important for both the economic development of our area and for the economic stability of our urban neighborhoods.

The Greater New Haven Chamber fully supports New Haven Works as one of the building blocks needed to continue make New Haven a center for jobs, opportunity and innovation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tony Rescigno".

Tony Rescigno
President
Greater New Haven Chamber of Commerce